

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCI-06 CEQ-02 EPA-04 OMB-01 SAJ-01 SS-20

NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01

USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 L-03 NSF-04 DRC-01 /112 W

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P R 071339Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8575

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 16075

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, UR, GW, FR, US, UK, WB

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO SOVIET STATEMENT ON FRG ENVIRON-
MENTAL OFFICE IN BERLIN

REF: BONN 15818

1. AT NOVEMBER 6 BONN GROUP MEETING, US REP RAISED ON
PRIORITY BASIS THE PROPOSAL THAT THE ALLIES SHOULD PRE-
PARE A DRAFT REPLY TO THE SOVIET ORAL STATEMENT ON THE
FRG ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE. US CIRCULATED DRAFT WHICH IS
NOW UNDERGOING REVISION ON BASIS OF OTHER ALLIES'
COMMENTS.

2. BASIC APPROACH IS TO REITERATE, IN SOMEWHAT ABBRE-
VIATED FORM, POINTS MADE BY ALLIES TO BELETSKIY ON
OCTOBER 8 AND TO REBUT FIRMLY THE SOVIET ASSERTION
RE THE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING REDUCTION OF
THE FEDERAL PRESENCE IN WEST BERLIN. WE HOPE TO HAVE
APPROVED BONN GROUP DRAFT BY END OF WEEK FOR SUB-
MISSION TO CAPITALS FOR APPROVAL.

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3. IN DISCUSSION WITH FRG FONOFF REPS, IT IS CLEAR THAT THE FDP (SCHEEL AND GENSCHER) ARE DETERMINED TO PRESS AHEAD WITH ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OFFICE IN WEST BERLIN. THE ONLY QUESTION SAID TO BE REMAINING IS WHEN THE MATTER IS FORMALLY BROUGHT BEFORE THE CABINET FOR DECISION. (COMMENT: WE DO NOT EXPECT THE FDP TO HAVE DIFFICULTIES WITH THE PROPOSAL IN THE CABINET: THE OFFICE HAS BECOME A MATTER OF FACE FOR THE FDP LEADERSHIP AND HENCE OF IMPORTANCE FOR THE COALITION'S INTERNAL COHESION. END COMMENT.) WE HAVE REQUESTED FONOFF TO KEEP US INFORMED AS TO TIMING OF CABINET CONSIDERATION FOR THIS MAY HAVE SOME EFFECT ON TIMING OF ALLIED RESPONSE TO SOVIET STATEMENT.
HILLENBRAND

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